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(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) Pub. No.: **US 2002/0180783 A1**
Broussard (43) Pub. Date: **Dec. 5, 2002**(54) **APPLICATION PROGRAM INTERFACE
THAT CAN MAINTAIN SIMILAR LOOK AND
FEEL OF A DISPLAYED IMAGE
REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE
INTERFACE IS PLATFORM DEPENDENT
OR PLATFORM INDEPENDENT**(75) Inventor: **Scott J. Broussard**, Cedar Park, TX
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Austin, TX 78767-0398 (US)(73) Assignee: **International Business Machines Cor-
poration**, Armonk, NY(21) Appl. No.: **09/870,611**(22) Filed: **May 31, 2001****Publication Classification**(51) Int. Cl.⁷ **G06F 3/00**(52) U.S. Cl. **345/744**(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system and method are disclosed whereby the look and feel of the OS/2 operating system is added to the Swing application program interface (API), in an enhanced version of the API, referred to herein as AWTSwing. A further disclosure is the creation of a thread-relative setLookAndFeel method, which only accepts calls from a particular thread to adopt a prescribed look and feel. This makes it possible for an application to have a look and feel distinct from that of the platform, or of other concurrently executing applications. This capability is not present in the conventional version of the Swing API, which treats look and feel settings as global.

